



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF



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4 DECEMBER 1965

~~TOP SECRET~~

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1. Rhodesia

The Organization of African Unity is in session today to consider military recommendations of its Committee of Five. At a minimum, the meeting will approve the committee's conclusions that sabotage operations be begun.

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2. Dahomey

This small West African country is in the throes of another of its periodic coups. General Soglo, the military chief, is presently calling the shots. He told the US Embassy yesterday that the provisional government installed earlier this week would be replaced in the next day or so by a new regime composed of civilian and military personnel.

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3. Laos

Moscow is trying to rouse US concern over Laos.

Soviet officials in Vientiane have recently complained to both US and British representatives about alleged US military action in Laos.

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The Soviets are probably not privy to Hanoi's intentions in Laos. Communist forces there, however, could launch significant attacks against positions in several areas with little warning, and this is one way Hanoi could apply additional pressures against the US.

The Soviets probably do not expect these approaches to change US policy.

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4. Vietnam

Hanoi's domestic service was quick to carry an account of the terrorist bombing of the US enlisted men's quarters in Saigon last night. Following its usual pattern for early reporting on major terrorist incidents, Hanoi gave a brief and fairly factual account attributed to "US news agencies." It credited the "Saigon liberation forces" with the bombing.

At last report, two US personnel had died in the attack and 68 had been wounded.

5. India-Pakistan

The Indians propose that their Tashkent talks with the Pakistanis begin on 3 or 4 January.

Both India and Pakistan are going to Tashkent without any expectation of real results. The Indian foreign office foresees another stalemate, there being no concrete measures acceptable to both. Ayub Khan made a similar prediction yesterday.

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6. Indonesia

Sukarno may be making a little headway in his efforts to undercut the army leaders. As with any group of strong-minded men there are differences of opinion among the generals and these give a political strategist like Sukarno a good opening.

He seems to be concentrating on frustrating the generals' efforts to set up a "supercabinet" through which to run the country. He is also trying to make sure that the generals do not shift Indonesian foreign policy too far out of its leftist inclination. One result is that the generals feel obligated to go ahead with the take-over of foreign oil companies, begun by Sukarno.

All this has not, however, stopped the drift away from Communist China. With even pro-Communist Subandrio against them, the Chinese are said to have cut off credits and pulled out of several aid projects.

7. Yemen

No progress has been made at the conference between Yemeni republicans and royalists at Harad.

The republicans

are insisting that the government remain republican over the next ten months while Egyptian troops are withdrawing.

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8. Cuba

In a speech Friday night Fidel Castro again went out of his way to pay tribute to Che Guevara and to report that he is alive and well, "carrying out his duties." Guevara has become, in fact, the center of a veritable hero cult which the regime itself has been building around him for several months.

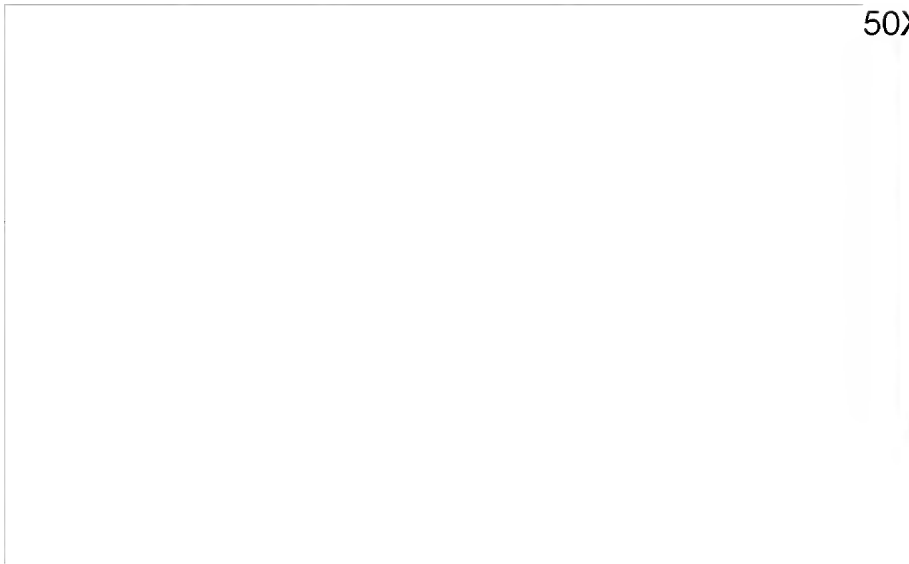
Castro has implied that he does not expect Guevara ever to return to Cuba.

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9. France

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